



# FEMA



Prepared by  
*Cindy Elsenheimer*

# FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Saturday, December 29, 2018

**Disclaimer:** The purpose of this briefing is to provide a **Regional** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information.

To find your local NWS forecast office, go to [www.weather.gov/srh](http://www.weather.gov/srh).

# Summary of the Upcoming Week



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## Today

- **Snow continues across S NM into Far W TX and the TX Panhandle. Travel impacts likely across NM and Far W TX**
- **Heavy rainfall/isolated flash flooding possible across SE LA**

## Sunday - Monday

- **Heavy rainfall/isolated flash flooding possible across SE OK, ArkLaTex and into AR on Sunday**
- **Strong to severe thunderstorms are possible across SE LA on Monday, and the heavy rainfall/isolated flash flooding threat shifts into AR and E LA**
- **Another round of snow develops Monday night across northern NM**

## Tuesday

- **Snow continues for NM with travel impacts possible**

## Wednesday

- **No significant weather hazards expected**

## River Flooding

- **Minor to moderate (and a few gauges reaching major) river flooding is expected or occurring S LA and E TX.**
  - **Trinity River at Liberty is now forecast to reach major flooding by Sunday**
  - **Tchefuncte River near Folsom in LA has reached major flood stage**
- **Minor river flooding is occurring or expected over N LA and S AR.**
- **Additional rain over eastern portions of the Region Sunday / Monday will slow recessions.**

# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Dec 29, 2018 – Jan 2, 2018



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DAY / THREAT	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
Severe Storms			SE LA		
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	SE LA	SE OK, ArkLaTex into AR	AR, E LA		
Winter Weather	NM/Far W TX		NM	NM	
Fire Weather					
River Flooding	ETX, S LA	ETX, S LA	ETX, LA	ETX, LA	ETX, LA
	S AR & OK, N LA	S AR & OK, N LA			

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

*\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.  
State or local threat level criteria may differ.\*  
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*

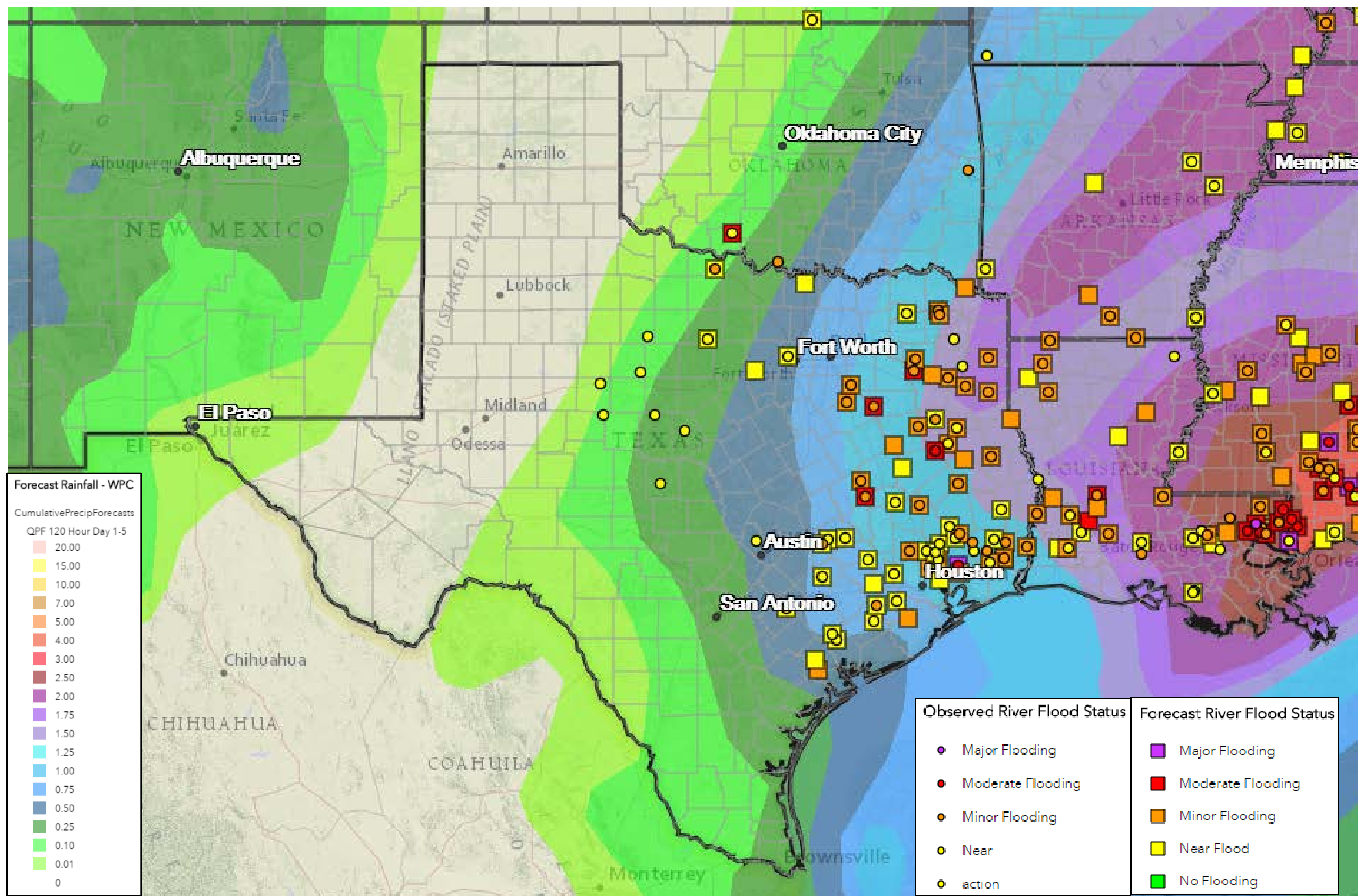


# 5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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*Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall*



**Minor to Moderate river flooding (with a few gauges reaching Major) is expected or occurring across E TX and S LA.**

- Tchefuncte River near Folsom in LA is at major flood with some evacuations and potential impacts to a bridge structure
- Trinity River at Liberty is expected to return to Major flood stage by Sunday

**Minor river flooding is expected or occurring across S OK, N LA, and S AR**

**Additional rain over eastern portions of the Region Sunday / Monday will slow recessions.**

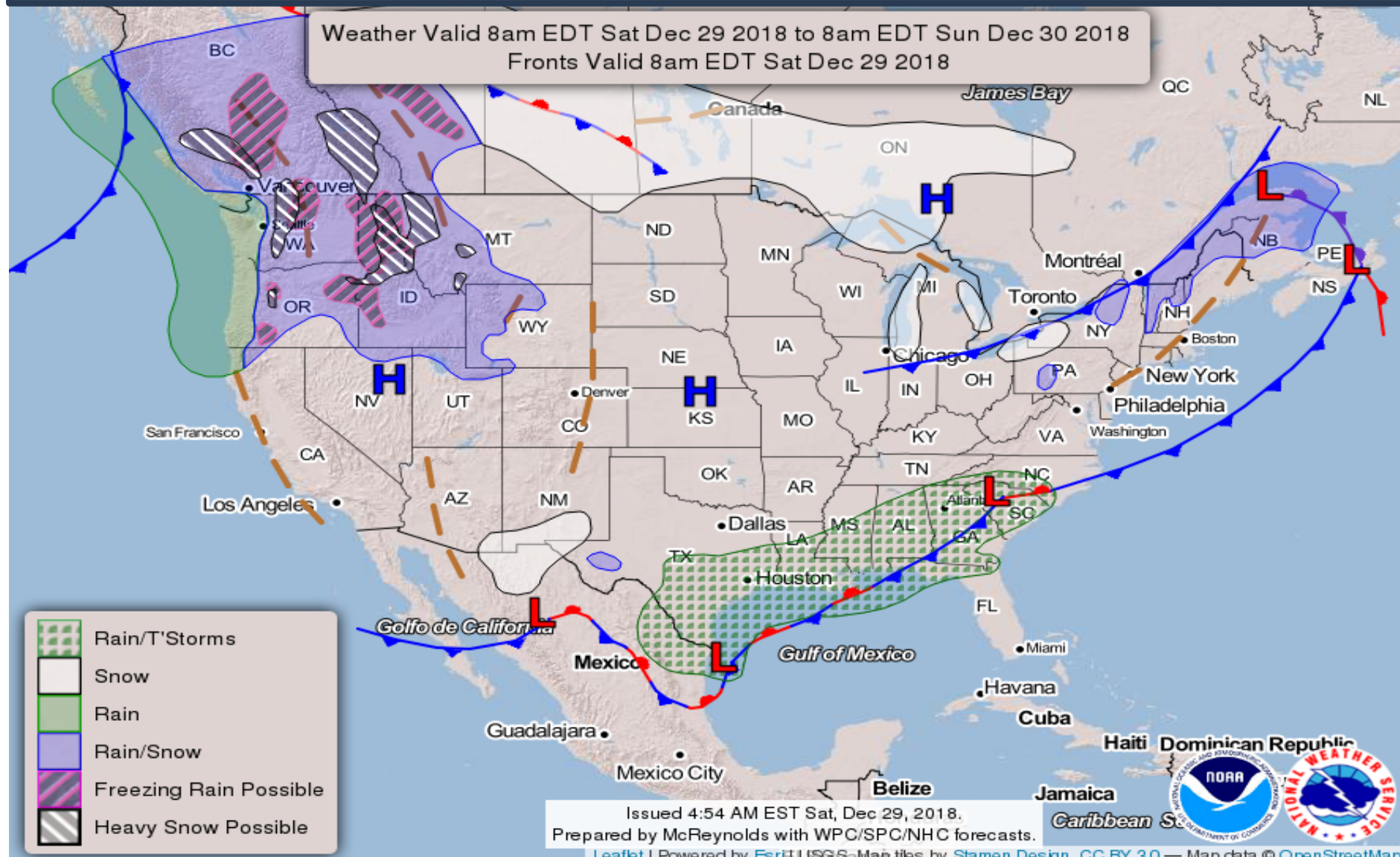


# Today's Weather

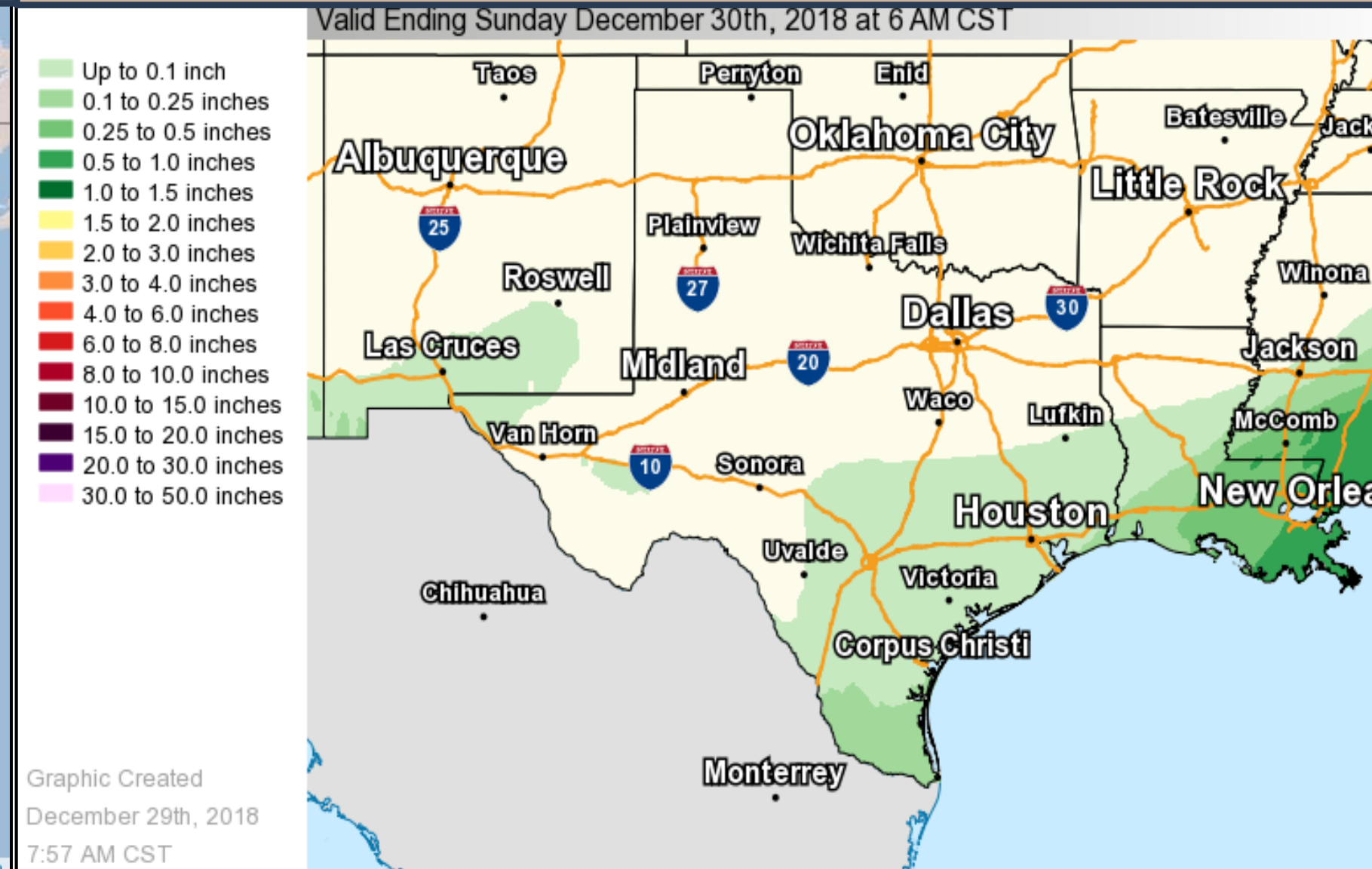


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# Forecast Chart



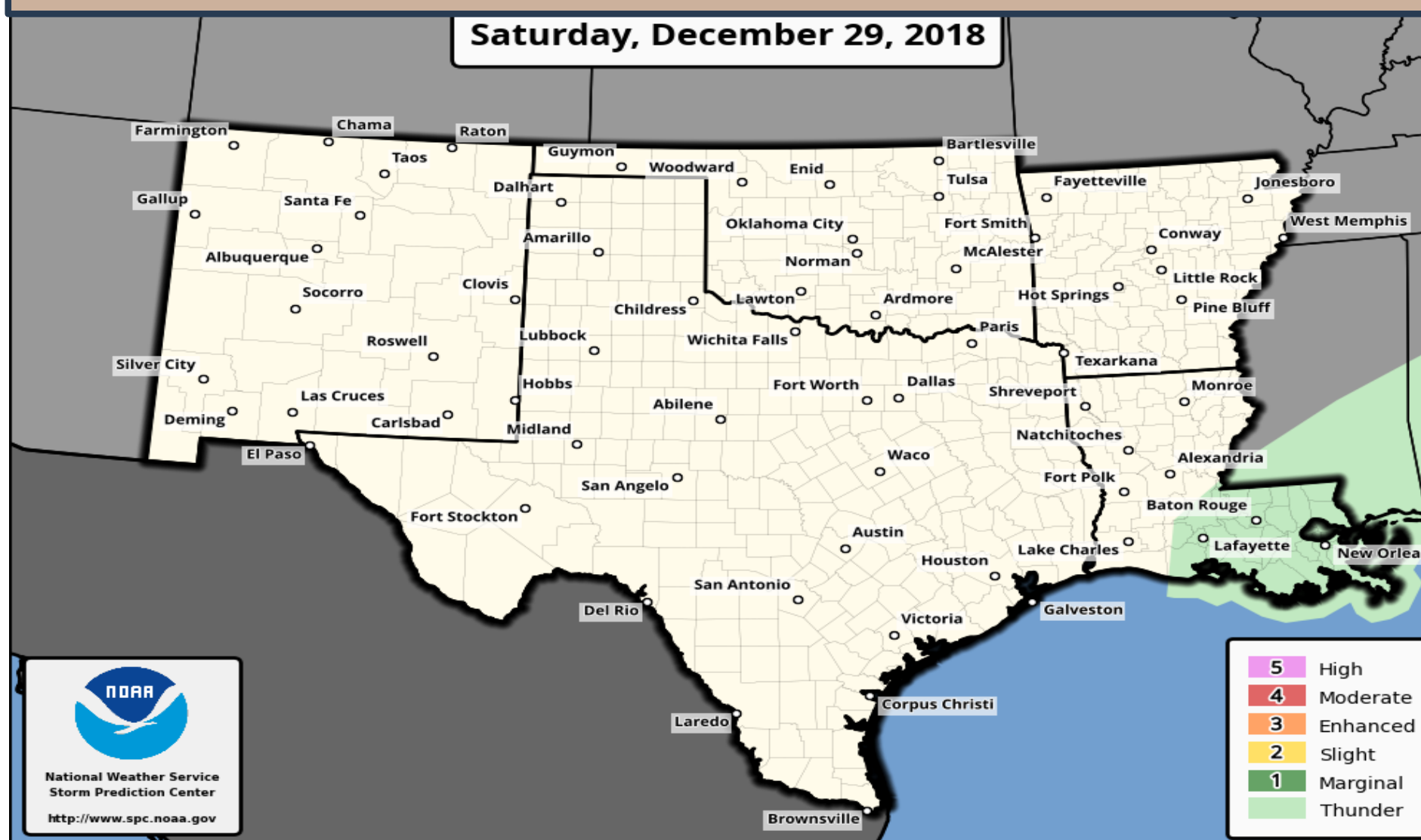
# Forecast Rainfall



**Winter Storm will be winding down across NM/Far WTX this morning.**

# Heavy rain/isolated flash flooding possible across SE LA.

# Severe Weather Outlook



## Excessive Rainfall Outlook





# Watches, Warnings, and Advisories



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## Fire Weather



Graphic Created

## Severe Weather & Flooding



Graphic Created

**Winter Storm Warning  
across SE NM.**

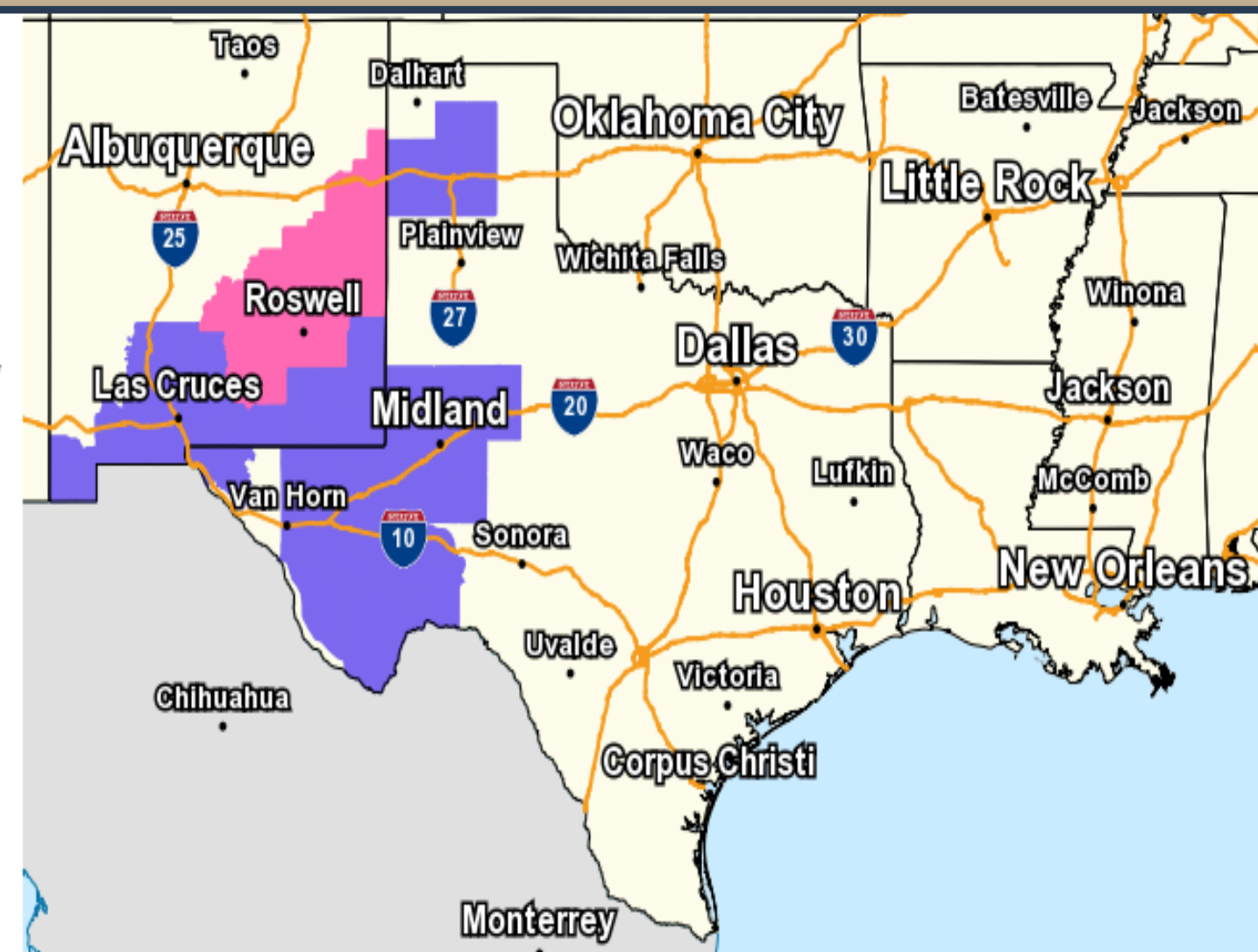
**Winter Weather  
Advisories for light snow  
remain across W TX, S  
NM, TX Panhandle.**

## Strong & Gusty Winds



Graphic Created

## Winter Weather



Graphic Created



# Tomorrow's Weather

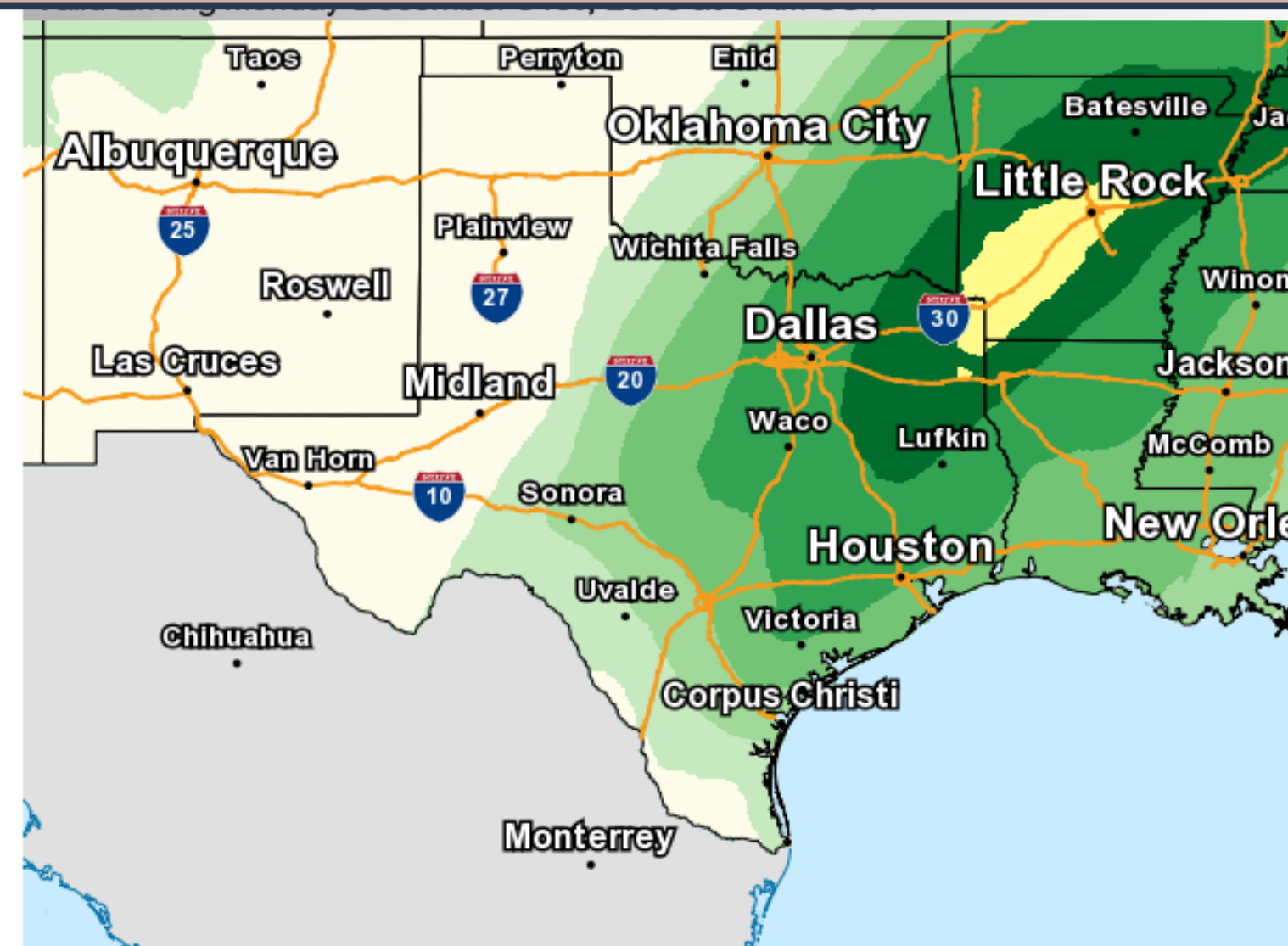
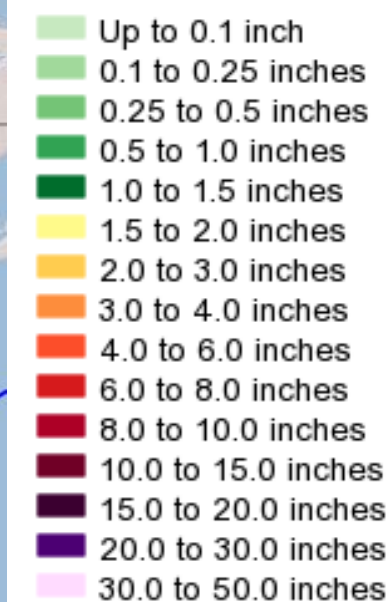
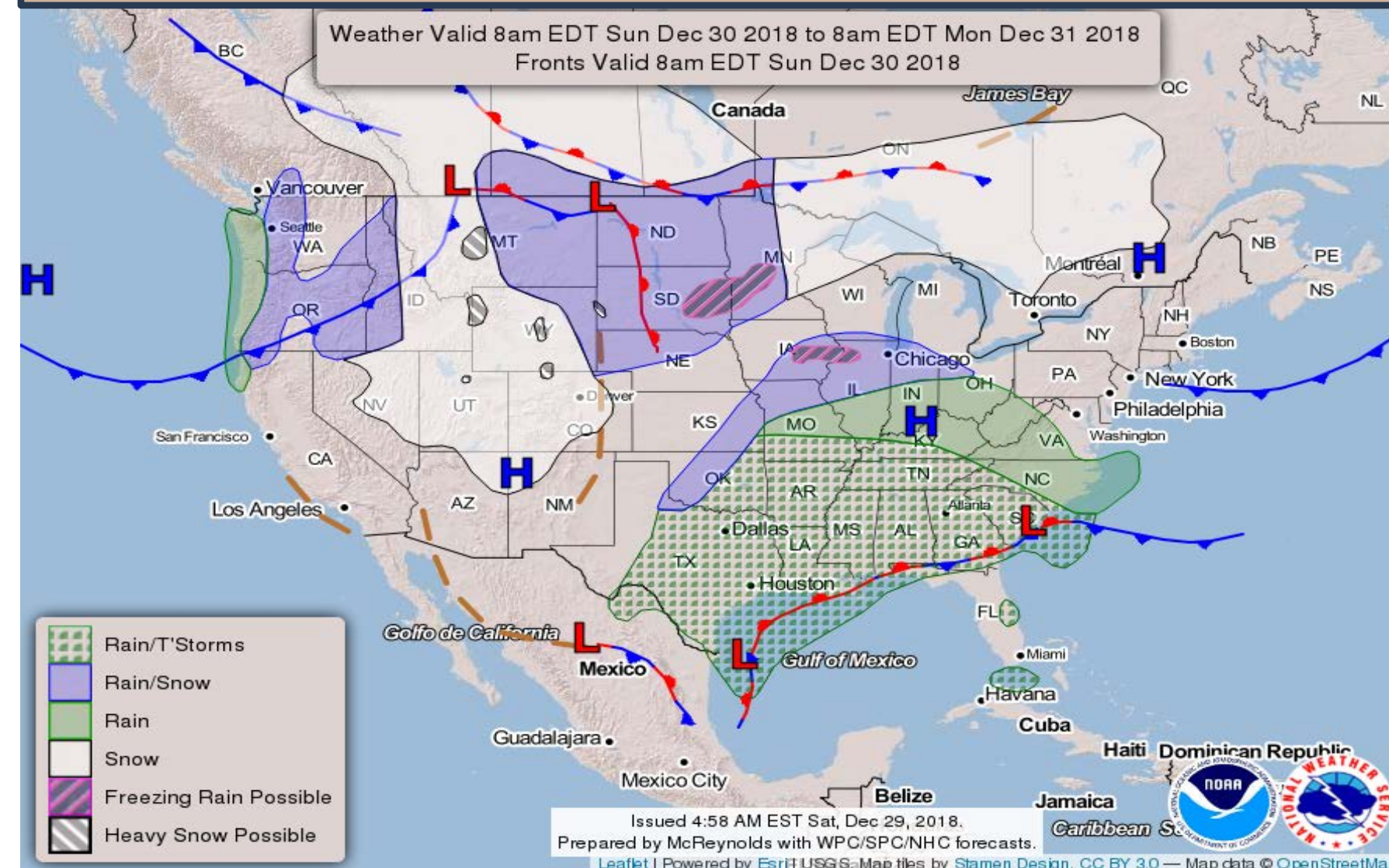


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## Forecast Chart

## Forecast Rainfall

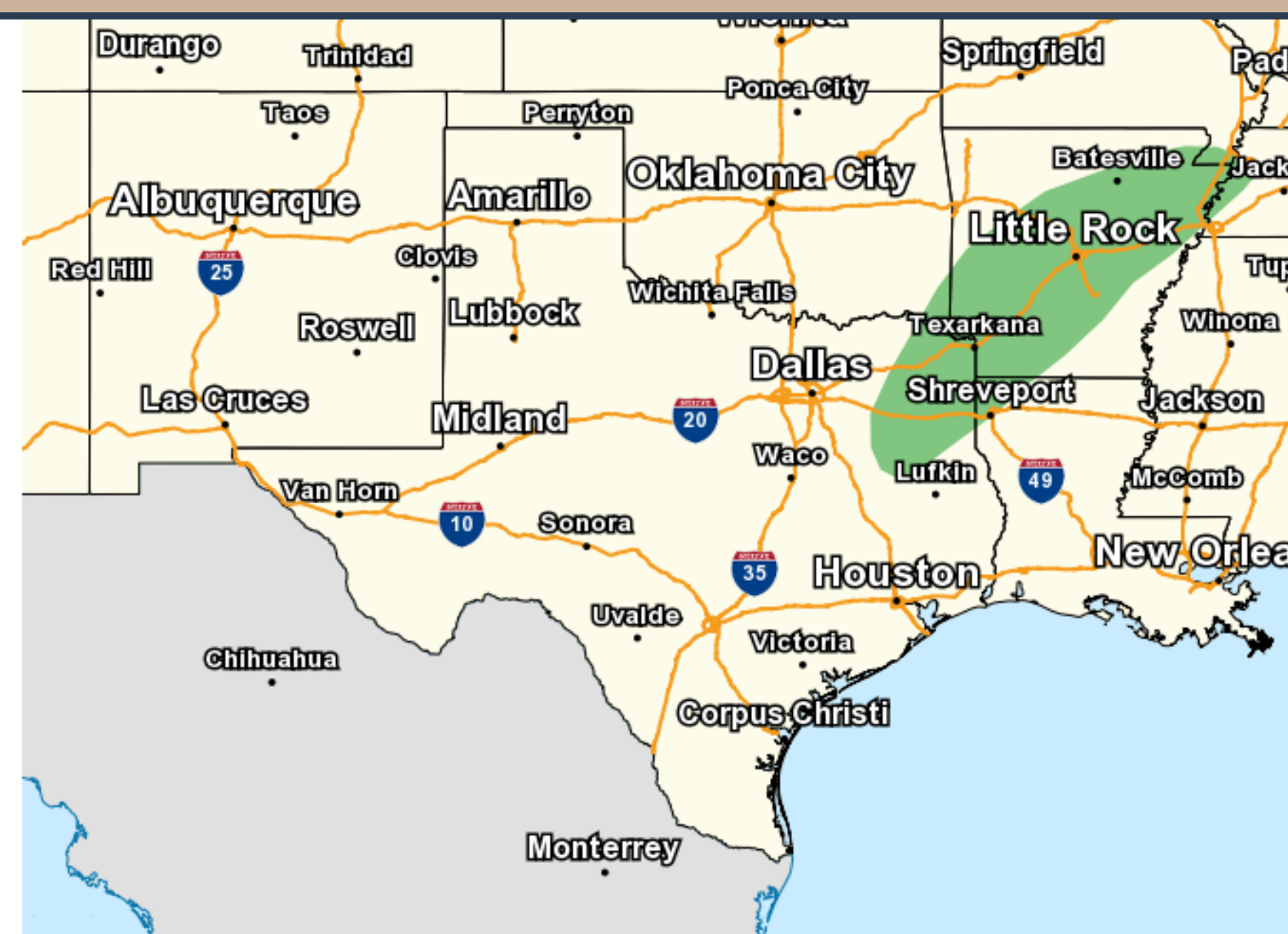
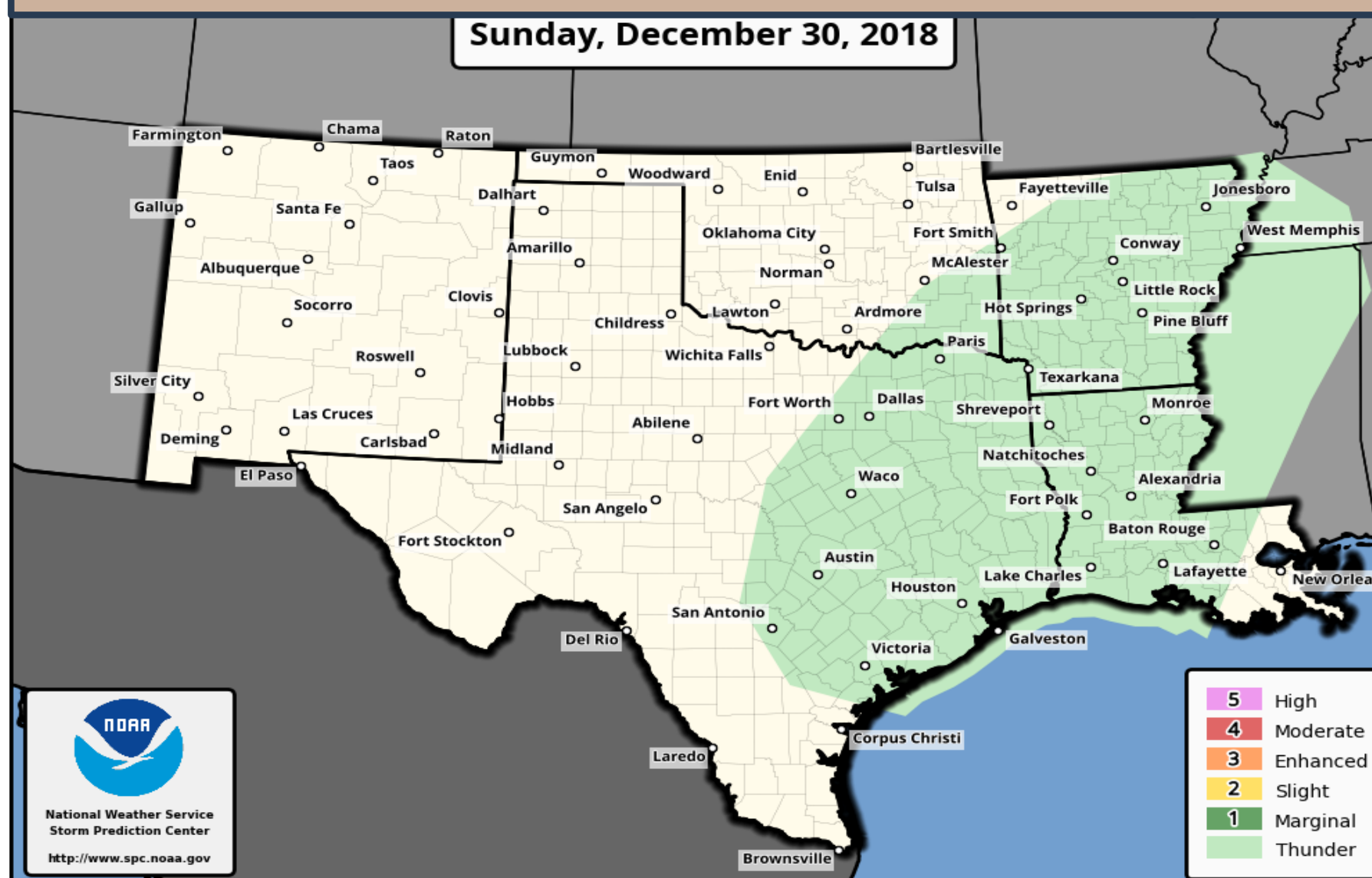
Heavy rain/isolated flash flooding possible for SE OK, the ArkLaTex into most of AR.



Graphic Created  
December 29th, 2018  
7:57 AM CST

## Severe Weather Outlook

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Graphic Created  
December 29th, 2018  
AM CST



# Monday's Weather

## Forecast Chart

## Forecast Rainfall



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Strong to severe storms  
possible for SE LA.

Heavy rainfall/isolated  
flash flooding possible  
across AR, E LA

Another round of snow  
over NM

## Severe Weather Outlook

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook

Severe Weather Outlook  
Monday, December 31, 2018

Marginal  
Slight  
Moderate  
High

5 High  
4 Moderate  
3 Enhanced  
2 Slight  
1 Marginal  
Thunder

Graphic Created  
December 29th, 2018  
AM CST

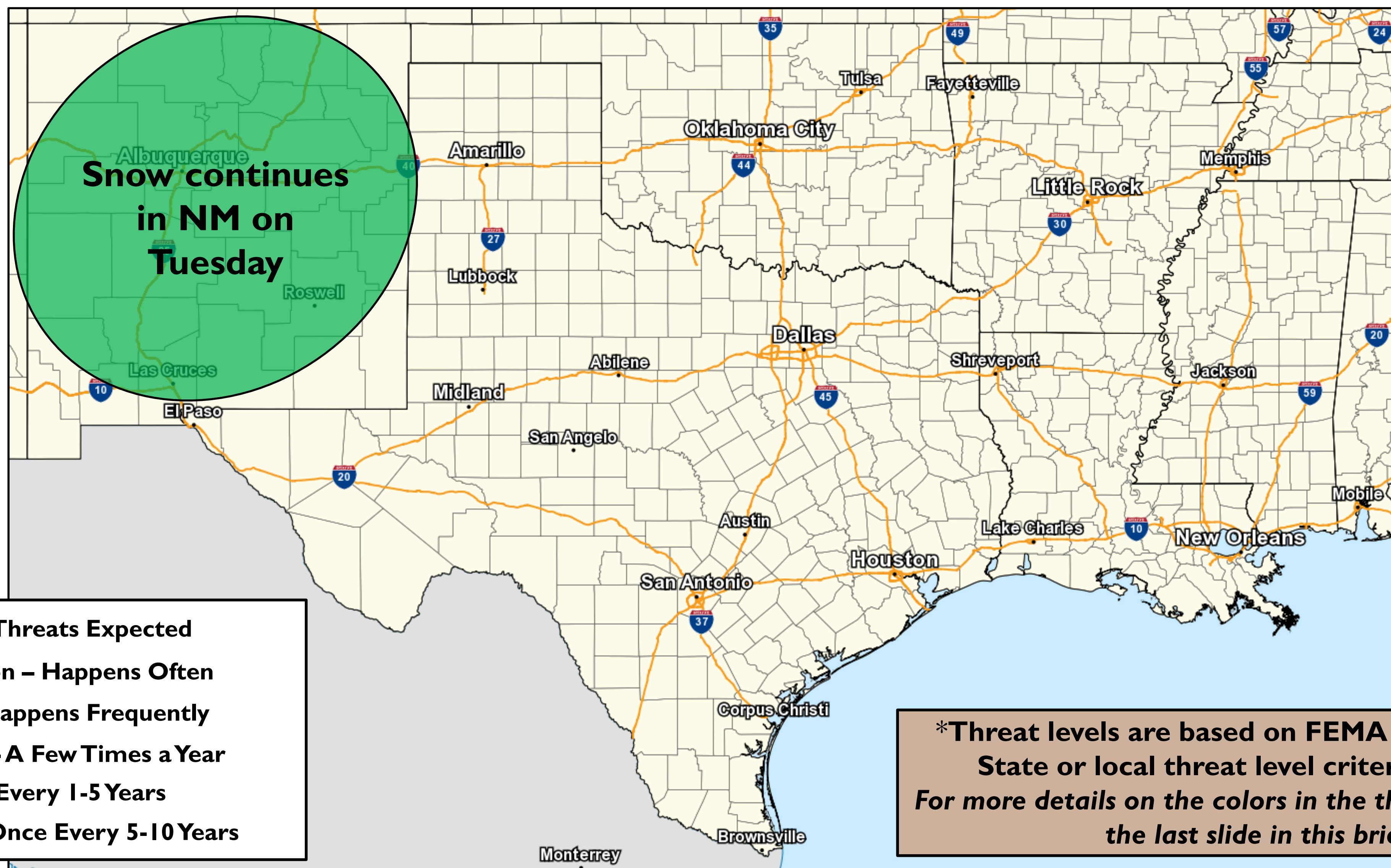


# Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Tuesday – Wednesday



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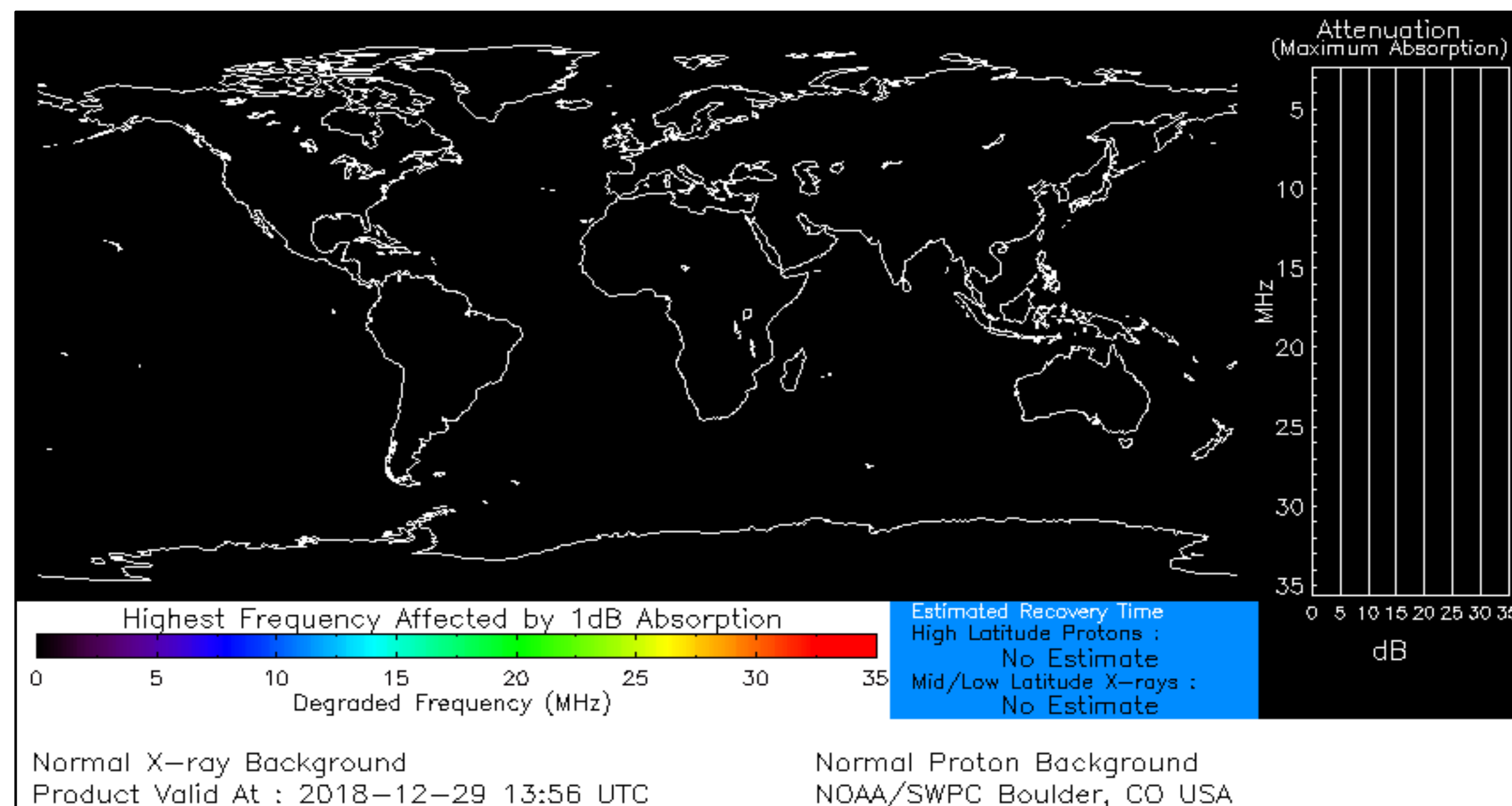


# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



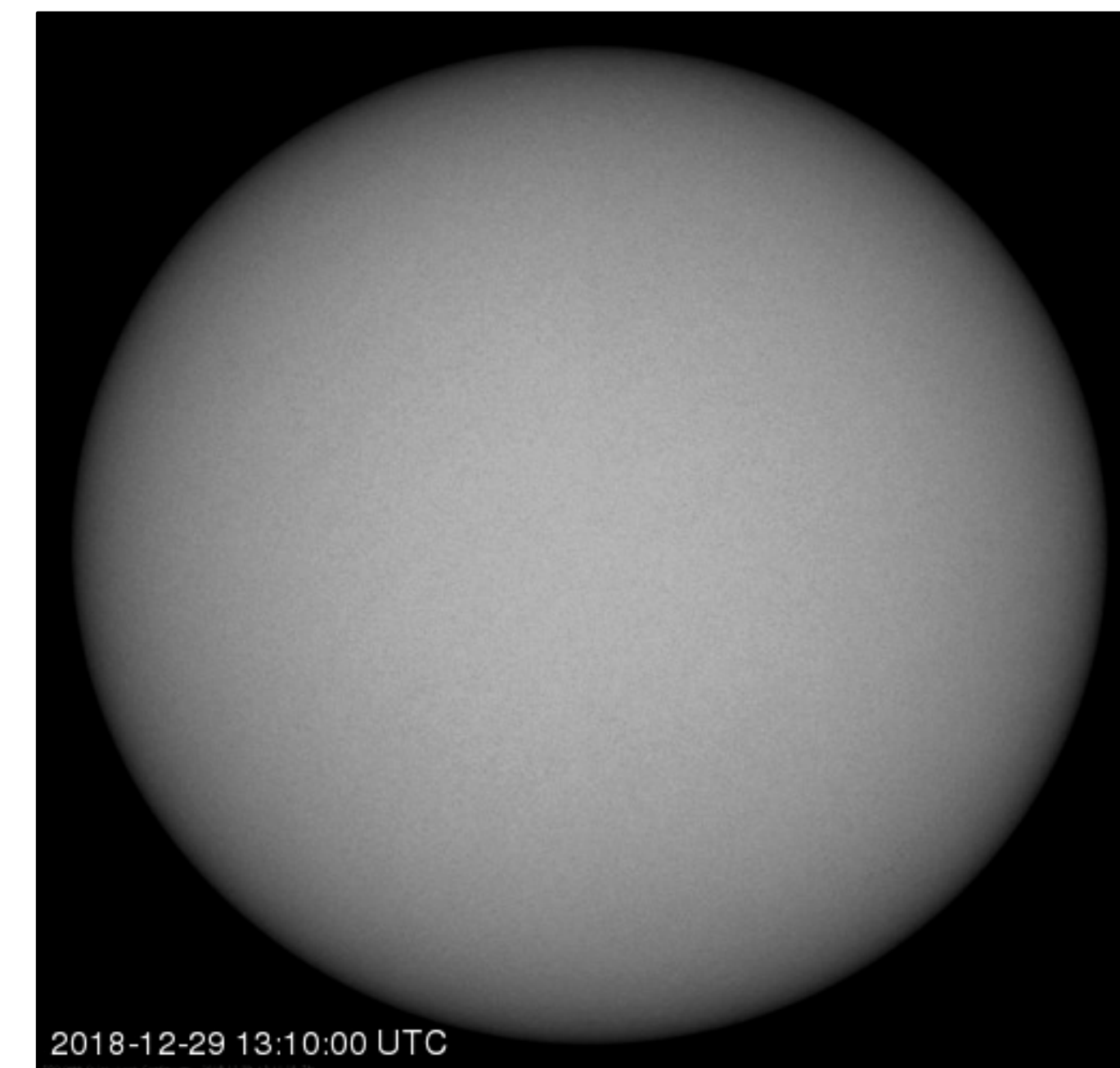
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	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)







# For more information, please contact:

**National Weather Service**  
**Southern Region Headquarters**  
**Regional Operations Center**  
**Fort Worth, TX**

Phone: (682) 703-3747

E-mail: [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)

Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>





Weather “Threat” Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	<b>Very Common</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees</li> <li>Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX</li> </ul>
Yellow	<b>Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible</li> <li>Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail</li> </ul>
Orange	<b>Uncommon – A Few Times a Year</b> Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely</li> <li>Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail</li> <li>Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected</li> </ul>
Red	<b>Rare – Once every 1-5 Years</b> Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days</li> <li>Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail</li> <li>Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue</li> </ul>
Purple	<b>Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years</b> Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow</li> <li>Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms</li> </ul>

**Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to**

**[sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)**